

DEATH IN LIFE.

A Startling Story of Suspended Animation—Other Cases of the Same Strange Phenomenon.
Boston Herald.

There is a very strange story reported from East Boston. On Friday, the 12th inst., there died at the residence of Amos R. Lovejoy, 157 Webster street, a young lady named Hattie G. Craig, lacking a few days only of being 24 years of age. Her death was preceded by a sickness of nearly a year, and the disease of which she died was clearly of a consumptive nature. Previous to her prostration she visited some friends at Ticonderoga, N. Y., and while there it is believed that her blood became poisoned by some means or other, and consumption ensued before the primary cause was discovered or removed. The deceased was a most estimable young lady in every respect, and was an active member of the Sunday-school of the Warren Avenue Baptist Church, of which Rev. O. P. Gifford is pastor. Many of the circumstances following the death and preceding the burial of the young lady are of a peculiarly interesting, if not of a distressing nature. On the morning of the 12th, the long-suffering patient seemed to be rapidly nearing the end, and at 11 o'clock she appeared to have breathed her last. The stricken family surrounded the bedside, and there were the usual manifestations of grief at the loss, tempered, perhaps, with a feeling of relief that the poor girl's sufferings were over. The eyes of the young lady were tenderly closed by the sorrowing grandmother, and the body was left alone with the weeping father. He remained for about half an hour in the chamber of death, and then took his leave with reluctance. Just as he had turned his back upon the beloved form he was startled by a movement of the body, and exclamation simultaneously of

"PAPA, PAPA, PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME." When he turned around he saw, with delight and astonishment, that his daughter was not a corpse, but an actual, living and conscious being, endowed with as much intellect and strength as at any time during the last part of her sickness. Of course there were now great joy and consternation throughout the household. When she had become somewhat calm, Miss Craig, with a smile and countenance angelic beyond description, said:

"Oh, papa dear, do you know where I have been?"

"No, Hattie, tell me where you have been; let me know all about it," answered the overjoyed father.

"Oh, papa, I have seen heaven, and I am to have my health restored to me on certain conditions," she answered in great glee.

"What are these conditions, and are you willing to submit to them?" asked the father.

"Yes, papa; certainly I am."

"But what are they, dear?" still queried the parent.

"I cannot reveal them to you now, papa. But, oh, I saw such beautiful things in heaven."

"Tell me, won't you, all about who and what you saw. Come now, that's a good girl."

"Oh, I saw them all; I saw them all, papa; and I'm going to heaven again, and when I go don't let them put me into the ground until you are sure I am dead."

During the rest of the day, up to 6 o'clock in the evening, the poor girl was alternately in a conscious and swooning condition. In her lucid moments, which were frequent and prolonged, she all the while insisted that

SHE HAD BEEN IN HEAVEN,

but no inducement could tempt her to reveal the splendors and delights of what she saw on the golden shores. She is said to have been impressed with an indescribable desire, even an absolute longing to return. But why? If the charms of this mundane sphere were described to her, they were probably cold and repulsive compared with what she had seen on the shores beyond. It is intimated that the young lady's excuse for not betraying the visions of her trance was that, if she disclosed them, she would be forced to inhabit this cruel and transitory world. Silence—absolute silence—about what she had seen was the condition of her return to the celestial world. In the latter part of the afternoon the young lady's condition was changeable. Said her father to a Herald attache: "She had five or six spasms, and in the last one she was in the most excruciating agony, and piteously

BEGGED ME TO KILL HER.

We had been giving her morphine, and half a dose was now administered. A little later we gave her another half dose, and she became easier and continued without pain until 6 o'clock, when she died, seemingly without a particle of suffering. She called all her friends to the bedside before she died," concluded the father in his account of the scene, "and talked with them all and finally bid them good bye until she met them in heaven." In view of what had happened in the morning, it was determined to have the most absolute proof of death before making any arrangement for the obsequies of burial. A close watch on the remains detected a movement of the eyeballs at frequent intervals, and one of them persisted in keeping open in spite of all efforts to close it. All night long the afflicted father sat by the side of the form of his loved one, and others of the household were in readiness to do all in their power to perpetuate any spark of life which might appear. Not a few who

were present insisted that it was not death, but another instance of suspended animation. There was an unmistakable rolling of the eyes, but beyond this no movement of the body whatever. The next morning the attending physician, Dr. E. A. Gilman, of South Boston, came in response to a telegraphic summons and made a careful examination. Though the case seemed a very singular one to him, and while he had no doubts but what dissolution had taken place, yet he advised that interment be deferred until there were unmistakable signs of decomposition. The funeral took place Sunday afternoon, the 14th instant, the services being conducted by the Reverend Mr. Clifford, of the Warren avenue, and there was a very large attendance of the friends and associates of the young lady. At this time the appearance of the body had not changed and one of the near relatives of the deceased is now firm in the belief that Miss Craig heard every word of the exercises. Subsequent to the funeral Dr. Taft, of Worcester, was called to make an examination. He said the case was wholly different from any he had ever witnessed. There were none of the evidences of death usually seen, and yet he could not believe that the girl was living. Like Dr. Gilman, he counseled delay in burial, but the parent had already determined on this prior to any medical advice. On Tuesday, the 16th instant, four days after the first supposed dissolution, most unmistakable evidences of mortification were apparent, and the remains of the poor girl were on that day taken to Andover for final interment.

The Growing Gazette.

The small potato legislators of Texas have put a tax of \$500 on the vendors of the *Police Gazette*. If we wished we could buy out the moral faction of the state, but we would hold them dear at any price, and don't propose to either purchase them or to be blackmailed by the canting crew of political deacons. Such yellow curs may as well bay the moon as snarl at us. Both *Luna* and the *Gazette* will roll on in spite of their howls.—*Police Gazette*, N. Y.

The growl of the *Gazette* comes too late. The solons at Austin whipped it out of the pious circles of Texas society. The *Gazette* has a vicious disposition, and has too long led the young bloods of America on with its blood curdling stories, hair breadth escapes, suicides, elephents, scandals and other floods of pollution poisonous to the morals of any civilization. The men who composed the legislature of the State of Texas did the people of the State heroic service when they shut the flood gate of pollution known by the name of *Police Gazette*. When Texas is flooded with such literature as the *Gazette* crime will follow in its wake, but we hope such a day will never cast its dark shadow over the moral happy homes of the lone Star State.

When the *Gazette's* owners come down to purchase the State of Texas they will find out that it cannot be done. They will find the "yellow curs" reflected the sentiment of the masses and carried out the popular will when they shut out a publication who's virus is like the seeds of a cancer. Texas morality stands head and shoulders above a purchase; and the pious political deacons who turned the screws on the *Gazette*, by legislative enactment are not in the black-mailing business.—*Corsicana Observer*.

The Comet.

The big comet about which astronomers have been talking a good deal lately, reached its nearest point to the earth Monday—about 88,000,000 miles—and is now whirling away at the rate of 1,000,000 miles a day toward the sun, which it will approach within 5,000,000 miles on June 10—pretty close rub, but not so close as the comet of 1880. Then it will travel off into space once more. It can be seen now with the naked eye in the chair-shaped constellation of Cassiopea, in the northern sky, between midnight and day break, but though an uncommonly large comet, with a tail half a million miles long, is no brighter than a star of the seventh magnitude. When it gets closest to the sun it will be much brighter, but by that time it will be in the southern hemisphere, and the South Americans will get the benefit of the sight. But we may have yet another comet this way before the summer is over—that of 1812, which is now about due, and which astronomers first thought this one to be. The orbit of this one is so different, however, that astronomers are agreed that it is not the comet of 1812. What it is nobody knows; it seems to be a stranger upon his first recorded visit.

KANSAS boasts of a million and a half acres of winter wheat, four feet high. If it escapes disaster the crop is good for 60,000,000 bushels—enough to supply bread to 6,000,000 people for a whole year at a pound and a quarter per day.

NEW YORK beef is 100 per cent. higher than last year, but it is not 100 per cent. tougher. That limit had been reached already.

A LETTER mailed in St. Louis thirty-two years ago to a man in Green Bay has just reached its destination. The family were as well as usual.

In a western mine there is this notice: "Do not fall down this shaft, as there are men at work at the bottom of it."

The Lay Torpedo.

The most successful type of the movable torpedo is found in the invention of Mr. John L. Lay of Buffalo, New York, who has heretofore been mentioned as associated with Chief Engineer Wood in the invention of the torpedo used by Cushing. As excellent as the Lay undoubtedly is, it still has the same defect as others, namely, want of sufficient speed; this, however, does not seem an insuperable obstacle, and with each successive construction a greater speed is obtained. The boat is always under the control of the operator, who can stop or start it, steer to either one side or the other, or fire the charge whenever he pleases. All these things are of course extremely advantageous, and greatly enhance the value of the weapon. The motive power is carbonic acid gas. This gas (as is well known) becomes liquefied under a pressure of forty atmospheres, and in this state it is stored in a flask in a boat. When the valve closing this flask is open vaporization ensues and the gas is taken to the engine, first, passing an automatically acting reducing valve, so that the pressure will not be too great. As the liquid expands, great cold is produced and trouble is experienced from its use as a motor; this, however, is not a serious difficulty, and some remedy will doubtless be found. The explosive chamber, containing five hundred pounds of material, is at the bow, and is so constructed that on contact with a vessel it is disengaged from its resting-place, and drops several feet, the idea being that an explosion in that position will do more damage than at the water-line. In one compartment of the boat is a drum, from which is paid out the cable through which the electric current passes. And a suitable arrangement of magnets opens a valve which allows gas to enter a cylinder, the piston of which causes the helm to be put in the desired direction; and a similar arrangement causes the throttle of the engine to open or close. The explosion is caused on contact if it is desired, or it may always be kept under the operator's control. Some of these boats have but one wire in the cable, over which the various functions are caused to operate; others have a multiple cable, with a wire for each thing required to be done. Over half a mile of wire is carried, so that the effective range becomes very much greater than that of any of its rivals. Mr. Lay is constantly at work introducing improvements, all of which are protected by numerous patents. His system has been definitely adopted by Russia after a satisfactory trial of ten of the boats built for her. A factory has been established, and it is proposed to use them very extensively in any future war.—*Allan D. Brown, in Harper's Magazine* for June.

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